

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 746

Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee

February 17, 2005

An act to add Section 755 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 746, as amended, Blakeslee. Public utilities: billings.

Existing law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to supervise and regulate every public utility in the state, *including an electrical corporation*. Existing law authorizes the commission to establish rules for all public utilities, subject to control by the Legislature. Existing law authorizes the commission to fix the rates and charges for every public utility, and requires that those rates and charges be just and reasonable.

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to establish policies to eliminate obstacles that prevent public utilities from offering~~ *require the commission to authorize an electrical corporation to offer convenient bill payment methods to customers, including credit card and debit card payment options, subject to the payment of reasonable transaction related fees.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 755 is added to the Public Utilities
- 2 Code, to read:

1 ~~755. — It is the intent of the Legislature, in subsequent~~
2 ~~legislation, to establish policies to eliminate obstacles that~~
3 ~~prevent public utilities from offering convenient bill payment~~
4 ~~methods to customers.~~

5 *755. An electrical corporation may offer convenient bill*
6 *payment options to customers, including credit card and debit*
7 *card payment options that pass on reasonable transaction*
8 *related fees to customers utilizing those payment options.*